



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE  
SEOUL BUREAU  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96301

6 February 1981  
MSK-1002

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Seoul Bureau--January 1981

I. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. Coverage of Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME Russian and English and Beijing Russian was assumed on 19 January while Okinawa's Russian monitor took annual leave. Due to continued problems in getting the necessary Extel parts to print MONTSAME locally, the casts have been intercepted in Okinawa and fed to Seoul via the KCNA dedicated circuit. Despite repeated, extensive efforts by the Bureau's Russian monitor, Beijing Russian casts have been virtually totally unmonitorable due to reception problems, including interference from identifiable Radio Moscow broadcasts in some cases.
2. To assist [redacted] while it moved into its new offices, the STAT Bureau assumed coverage of Taiyuan, Xian and Yinchuan from 12 to 20 January. Not too unexpectedly, reception of the traditionally problem stations was extremely poor and no material was processed.

B. Lateral Services

- ✓ The new South Korean news agency YONHAP began an Economic News Service during the month--a special 30-minute transmission of reports on the ROK economic situation. The Bureau offered to provide discards from the service to the Embassy's Econ Section, which expressed great interest in the material. This was subsequently expanded to include copies of economic items filed by the Bureau, which are now also passed to the Section.

II. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

1. Bureau teletypist [redacted] resigned effective 17 January to accept STAT

position in the Embassy's Consular Section. The vacancy was only announced two days previously, but the screening of applicants and initial processing were expedited so that [ ] could be given an EOD date of 19 January and thus beat the anticipated Presidential hiring freeze. STAT

2. Korean monitor [ ] resigned effective 24 January to accept a translator position, at the same grade, with ICA. While ICA announced the vacancy back in December, they did not get around to testing the applicants until 20 January and decided to offer [ ] the job on 23 January. STAT
3. Bureau Associate Editor [ ] gave birth to her second child, a daughter, on 9 January. STAT
4. Reinstatement of Seoul as an R&R post was still pending at month's end. While the State Department had indicated in December that reinstatement effective 1 January was anticipated, questions of eligibility remain to be finalized.

### III. VISITS

Okinawa Bureau Chief [ ] visited the Bureau on TDY 22-26 January. STAT

[ ]

Chief, Seoul Bureau, FBIS

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Attachments:  
Production Reports

cc: Chief, [ ]  
Chief, Okinawa Bureau

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